

# THE MORNING NEWS

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## Gil strengthens to category one hurricane

MEXICO CITY (AFP) - Tropical Storm Gil strengthened early Thursday into a category one hurricane, but remains far off the southern tip of Baja California and poses no immediate danger, forecasters said.

The storm, with maximum sustained winds of about 80 miles (130 kilometers) per hour was expected to gain intensity over the next 48 hours, said forecasters with the US-based National Hurricane Center said, who said Gil is located about 985 miles (1,585 kilometers) southwest of Baja California.

*Murano*  
Bijoux and More

AUTHENTIC

MURANO GLASS

f FACEBOOK.COM/MURANOBIJOUXANDMORE

PASEO HERENCIA MALL

MADE IN ITALY



## Aruba government to reintroduce HAVO E-Class on Aruba

When SMOA, the management Board of Colegio Arubano, decided to close Colegio San Nicolaas, the current Minister of Education, Arthur Dowers, decided to put the school under the public school management. It was decided that the school must remain open and functioning.

It was further decided that they will amplify the school's offering to include HAVO 4 and HAVO 5 and to also reintroduce the so-called E-Class.

A dynamic team under the leadership of Johnny Fingal, who was later named the first rector of the Colegio San Nicolaas, along with other inspectors of education worked

hard to ensure that the school would open in August 2012. This, in fact, took place last August 2012 to a jubilant group of teachers, students and parents.

In 2011-2012 the Minister ensured that there would be an Afternoon HAVO for those students who did not make it to enter the EPI. With the opening of the Colegio San Nicolaas, the Afternoon HAVO was discontinued and students were allowed entrance into the Colegio San Nicolaas to continue their education in the traditional school hours.

Continued on pg 2

## Snowden given Russia asylum, leaves airport



MOSCOW (AFP) - Fugitive US intelligence leaker Edward Snowden on Thursday left the Moscow airport where he was marooned for

over five weeks, after Russia granted him one year's asylum in a move that risks infuriating Washington.

Snowden slipped out of Moscow's Sheremetyevo airport in a cloak-and-dagger operation overseen by his Russian lawyer but unnoticed by the hordes of media trying to follow his every move.

The former National Security Agency (NSA) contractor was whisked away in a taxi to

an undisclosed location, leaving his lawyer to reveal that Snowden had received temporary asylum in Russia just two weeks after making an application.

"Snowden has left Sheremetyevo airport. He has just been given a certificate that he has been awarded temporary asylum in Russia for one year," lawyer Anatoly Kucherena told AFP.

Continued on pg 6

Hours:

8am - 10pm ish Sunday-Thursday

8am - 3am ish Friday & Saturday

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The word "irie" has a plethora of meanings in Jamaican culture, from pure nirvana to feeling well satisfied, and patrons

will certainly feel at least the latter after a visit to Aruba's only authentic Jamaican restaurant, the newly opened Jamaica Mi Irie in San Nicolas.

The kitchen is the beloved effort of well known island chef, Jeffrey Roy Elliott, the master in the kitchen of Elliott's Italian restaurant adjacent to Costa Linda. Jeffrey has gone back to his Jamaican roots for this enthu-



**Jeffrey Elliott and wife Daisy**

This very cute, cozy place is open for lunch and dinner daily, except Sundays and Mondays, from 11:00 AM until 10:00 PM. It is located directly across from the BSL Laundry on Captain Rodgerstraat, which runs along the refinery wall parallel to the San Nicolas main street.

siastic effort with his wife Daisy, who loves being the happy hostess.

The regular menu features the traditional cuisine such as Jerk Chicken, Fried Chicken, Beef oxtail, Stewed Pork, Jerk Pork, Fried Fish plus a house specialty, Curried Goat. These are regular items, but Jeffrey prefers to pepper his menu with various "Specials of the Day" made from what is fresh and seasonal.

**10% DISCOUNT with this ad!**



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Call us at: 5889027 or find us on facebook: Jamaica Mi Irie Aruba.

## OMBUDSMAN, a presentation



LECTORI SALUTEM,

Aruba is the only country in the Kingdom of the Netherlands not to have enshrined the institution of Ombudsbureau or Ombudsman in the constitution, by law or in practice.

Stichting San Nicolas Awareness Platform (SSNAP) considers an institution as the Ombudsman to be absolutely essential as part of the defence and protection of the citizenry against abuse and injustice in a democratic society.

In efforts to lead to addressing this void in the basic structure of our state, SSNAP is organising a presentation on the institution of Ombudsman in order to provide information hereabout to the general public as well as all persons and entities in the body politic.

The institution of Ombudsman in Curaçao recently celebrated ten (10) years of existence.

We have found the Ombudsman of Curaçao (a lady!) willing to assist us by making a presentation about the Ombudsman institution and also sharing their experience(s).

There will also be a Q&A segment following and as part of the presentation.

SSNAP respectfully and cordially informs you of and invites you to this presentation.

**Date: Saturday, 03 August 2013**

**Time: 20:00 hrs (8 PM)**

**Venue: TERESITA CENTER in San Nicolas**

Hoping to welcome you at this event, we remain respectfully.

Stichting San Nicolas Awareness Platform (SSNAP), ir Cornelius M Wilson, president  
ssnap.aruba@gmail.com or cmwilsonaua@gmail.com  
tel: +297 5935159

## SPECIAL WIND STATEMENT



**AUGUST 01, 2013**

WINDS ARE GOING TO INCREASE ON FRIDAY AUGUST 2 AND SATURDAY AUGUST 3, DUE TO A HIGH PRESSURE OVER THE ATLANTIC AND A LOW PRESSURE NEAR COLOMBIA.

WINDSPEED ( FRIDAY AUGUST 2 , 2013) AVERAGE 21 KNOTS WITH GUSTS UP TO 36 KNOTS.

FRIDAY NIGHT (AUGUST 2 , 2013 ) AVERAGE 19 KNOTS WITH GUSTS UP TO 34 KNOTS .

WIND-DIRECTION IS EAST.  
WINDSPEED ( SATURDAY AUGUST 3 , 2013) AVERAGE 22 KNOTS WITH GUSTS UP TO 36 KNOTS.

SATURDAY NIGHT (AUGUST 3 , 2013 ) AVERAGE 20 KNOTS WITH GUSTS UP TO 34 KNOTS .

WIND-DIRECTION IS EAST.  
WINDSPEED ( SUNDAY AUGUST 4 , 2013) AVERAGE 22 KNOTS WITH GUSTS UP TO 34 KNOTS.

SUNDAY NIGHT (AUGUST 4 , 2013 ) AVERAGE 20 KNOTS WITH GUSTS UP TO 32 KNOTS .

WIND-DIRECTION IS EAST.  
WINDS BECOMING MORE NORMAL FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST STARTING MONDAY AUGUST 5, 2013.

\* USE CAUTION OVER OPEN WATERS.

\* KEEP A SHARP EYE ON LOOSE OBJECTS.

\* REDUCED VISIBILITY ON SUNDAY AUGUST 4 2013 DUE TO HAZE.

THIS WILL BE THE LAST STATEMENT UNLESS CONDITIONS DETERIORATES.

ALL OTHER INFORMATION PERTAINING TO THE PUBLIC OR MARINE FORECAST ARE AVAILABLE ON WWW.METEO.AW

## Aruba government to reintroduce HAVO E-Class on Aruba

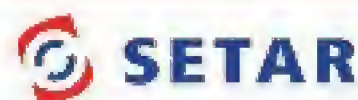
Continued from pg 1



Today, as a government public school, Colegio San Nicolaas offers our young people the E-Class system as well as, CB1, CB2, HAVO 3,4, and 5 and now of course the E-Class.

The E-Class is an option

for a student to complete his HAVO 4 and 5 in three rather than in two years. What's more this system is well received by students and parents who now have this excellent option for completing their HAVO diploma.



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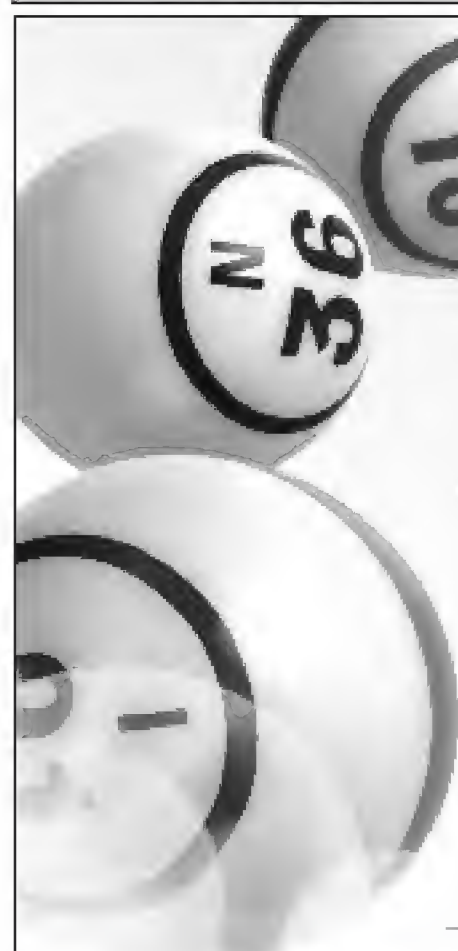
**3 Course Local Menu**  
appetizer, entree and dessert

<b>Appetizers</b>	Fish Soup, French Onion Soup, Salad
<b>Entree choices include these specialties</b>	Aruban Combo, Cabrito Stoba, Ribs, Keshi Yena Chicken, Fisherman's Loot, Gasparito Chicken
<b>Desserts</b>	Ice Cream, Quesillo or Chocolate Cake



Don't forget about our early bird special running between 5:30 to 6:30!

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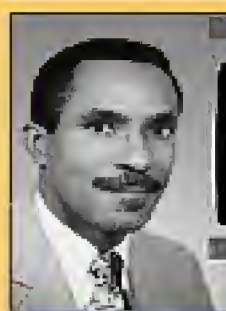
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[troparuba.com](http://troparuba.com)



## Pointers to Ponder

Tony A.D. Green

[www.people-self-development.com](http://www.people-self-development.com)

## The Ups and Downs of Election Campaigns! Part II



Yesterday we looked at what I call the "Ups" of an election campaign. We observed that there are a number of things

we can consider as being positive in an election campaign. Look for yesterday's paper if you want to see my list of

### Kirchner party under fire over pope poster before vote

BUENOS AIRES (AFP) - The ruling party of Argentine President Cristina Kirchner is under fire over a poster that appeared just ahead of legislative elections, showing her and a candidate smiling alongside Pope Francis.

The opposition is accusing Kirchner's party of using the Argentine-born pope's image to help the candidacy of Martin Insaurralde, who is the main candidate of her Victory Front running in the August 11 legislative primaries.

The poster shows the pope and the two politicians shaking hands after he celebrated mass last Sunday in neighboring Brazil, along with a quote from the pontiff: "Never be discouraged, don't let hope fade away."

"The pope is a universal figure, everybody is happy with him. I never imagined this, going to take a picture with him for a campaign poster," said Jose de la Sota, a governor of the central province of Cordoba and critics of the federal government.

The candidate of the opposition Progressive Front party, Margarita Stolbizer, accused the government of using public funds Insaurralde to travel to Rio de Janeiro just to take a photo with the pope, a popular figure in this majority Catholic country.

But Insaurralde, the 43-year-old mayor of the city of Lomas de Zamora, insisted that the poster "is not part of the Victory Front's campaign."

yesterday.

Today I want to take a peak at the "downs" in an election campaign, for most assuredly there are certain things we can consider being negative about what is transpiring during this period.

For starters, on an island this small, the constant parade of vehicles moving through our streets touting flags and banners is, to say the least, a major nuisance to motorists trying to get to or from work. I have yet to understand the mentality behind those car parades. If they are to woo voters, my guess is they certainly don't seem to woo too many. Instead, they enrage most motorists (voters) with the senseless driving around making loud noises. Our streets are too congested without this and this simply worsens an already bad situation.

Another real "down" is the roadside rallies. For some reason, practically all the public rallies are held on the very edge of a main highway. They choose some house along the highway for their campaign center and make certain that there is an overflow from that residence to the edge of the road. What a major nuisance again for motorists who must ease by at 2km per hour to go on their way.

One other "down" is the opportunity for excessive drinking of alcohol during election campaigns. At all of these rallies alcohol is freely available and many take advantage of the opportunity to



overdue the limit. Any keen observer has noticed how intoxicated many are in these public rallies.

I'm certain that the candidates all mean well and want the best for everyone. However, it is practically impossible to control everyone and a situation where so many people conglomerate together in one place. One consolation we have is that soon it will all

be over, the booze will be gone, the vehicles will have touted, the flags and banners will be removed, and winners and losers will be announced and we will be back to life as usual.

In the meantime, let's enjoy the "Ups" and make the best of the "downs." After all, we are all part of a One Happy Island!



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# BARNEY'S

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<b>TUESDAY</b> <b>SCHNITZEL</b> <b>NIGHT</b> <b>\$ 17.50</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY</b> <b>GROUPE</b> <b>NIGHT</b> <b>\$ 19.50</b>	<b>THURSDAY</b> <b>ALL YOU CAN</b> <b>EAT BBQ RIBS</b> <b>\$ 19.50</b>	<b>SATURDAY</b> <b>ALL YOU CAN</b> <b>EAT STEAK</b> <b>\$ 19.50</b>
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www.barneysaruba.com Palm beach 21 A Tel :+297- 586 5420 Closed on Monday's, FOR PRIVATE PARTY'S CALL!

## Frasa Trading announces upcoming food show for retailers and HORECA



Frasa Trading, the exclusive agents for many fine brands of comestibles, announced they will be conducting the first Frasa Food Show of commercial comestibles on Thursday, August 8, at the Renaissance Convention Center in Oranjestad. This trade show is aimed at F & B Managers, restaurant owners and others involved in the Hotel, Restaurant and Cafe industry, or HORECA, as well as food retailers.

Frasa Trading, a well established product distributorship, expects more than 20 international representatives who will fly into Aruba especially for the show. They will be introducing new products and providing exclusive deals on a selection of well known quality retail brands and food service products, all distributed locally by Frasa. Some of the confirmed brands and suppliers are Kimberly Clark, Roland, Florida's Natural, Monster Energy Drink, Sysco, Fresh Point, Miami Beef, Butterball, Aviko, Antillian Soap Company, and more. Their representatives will on hand with their expertise and insights into new market trends in both the retail and food service sector.

The event will be conducted in a trade show style, showcasing the lines of quality food, beverages, personal care and household products in the Frasa Trading stable. Brands from around the globe will be represented, with displays of fresh pro-

duce, beverages, snacks, food market staples, and seasonings. Various tasting sessions will be scheduled during the day of new products, as well as market favorites. "We expect the Frasa Food Show will provide numerous business opportunities to buyers, managers and business owners in Aruba," commented Frasa Brand & Marketing Executive Ana Maria Ramirez.

The Frasa Food Show will take place from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. Interested parties can register by sending an email to Ms. Ramirez at [frasa@frasaaruba.com](mailto:frasa@frasaaruba.com) with complete contact information.

... 'Jazzy moods' during the weekend continues...

## LG Smith's Steak & Chop House introduces their new entertainment by Live Xpressions!

ORANJESTAD – LG Smith's Steak & Chop House located on the second floor of the Renaissance Mall is known to offer a great live entertainment every weekend to entertain all those who visit the restaurant to enjoy a exquisite Certified Angus beef steak meal combined with high quality wine.

The Jazz quartet founded by Jeanoir Koolman, Live Xpression will be performing at LG Smith's Steak & Chop House from Friday till Sunday. Visit LG Smith's and enjoy the exceptional ambience combined with good food and Jazzy vibes presented by Live Xpression. They will perform a great selection of the most popular Jazz numbers; Pierre Koolman, Jeanoir Koolman, Jean Paul Lacle, Louis Koolman and Carlos Bislip will surely bring a perfect mix to entertain visitors of the casino as well as the restaurant. Every last Sunday of the month, there will be a special performance by "El Maestro" Eduardo Maya on his trumpet.



There are enough reasons for you to visit LG Smith's Steak and Chop House. Enjoy a moment of relaxation, select a fine wine from the extensive wine list and treat yourself to an unforgettable experience at LG Smith's.

For reservations call, 523-

6195 or visit [www.lg-smiths.com](http://www.lg-smiths.com). Don't forget to 'like' the LG Smith's Steak and Chop House Facebook page; open every night for dinner from 5:30pm till 11:00pm and the Midnight Grill is open from 11:00PM till 6:00AM.

## National/top market journalists visiting Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa for Yoga and breakfast



On Friday morning, July 26th Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa welcomed 12 national journalists accompanied by ATA representative Marilyn Feliciano and 'Z' PR Zimmerman agency Team Members, Lindsey Shindler and Bethany Swanson (both stay-

ing at Manchebo). Rachel Shippy of Ladies' Home Journal, was also part of the team staying at Manchebo. Ladies' Home Journal is one of the top women's publications in the U.S., reaching 3.2 million decision-making women per month, and en-

gages women with 30-55 with relevant conversations on health and relationships; beauty and style; food and travel.

The group started with a yoga class at the beach Pavilion hosted by yoga instructor, Anouscka van der Kuyp. After the yoga they enjoyed the healthy breakfast buffet at Ike's Bistro, including fresh fruit smoothies. Although a site inspection was not planned in the schedule, the journalists loved to see the beautiful Spa del Sol on the beach and one of Manchebo's newly renovated Deluxe Ocean View rooms.

The journalists also took a quick look in Manchebo's own Herb Garden.

The group arrived on the island on July 25th, and will be enjoying quite an extensive program to experience all the great restaurants and excursions Aruba has to offer, organized by the Aruba Tourism Authority.

As a health oriented hotel, Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa is giving their guests the opportunity to live healthy even away from home. Manchebo is honored to be able to welcome journalists to their intimate boutique resort.



# Sports Book & Poker Room



Open 11am - 11pm  
Simulcast of all mayor U.S. tracks  
Thoroughbred & Harness  
No Charge on Winner  
Poker Tournament  
Nightly

## Central/ Midwest USA Travel Agents on a Famtrip in Aruba



Recently Aruba received the visit of a group of travel agents, representing several companies from the Central/ Midwest of the United States, this group of selected agents came to Aruba to familiarize with our tourism product, most specially the enhancement of our down town area, Eagle Beach with the low rise hotel area and the Palm Beach strip with all the new amenities that the Island has in the area.

Several of our luxurious Resorts were visited by the agents and they were amazed with everything our Resorts have to offer in accommoda-

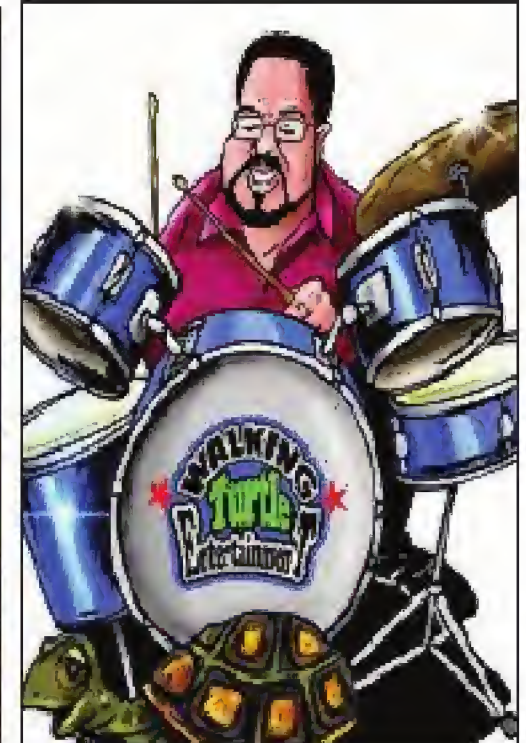
tions, amenities, activities and their food and beverages.

The Travel Agents also went on an island tour and catamaran and snorkeling trip courtesy of De Palm Tours who was also their ground handler.

Mr. Ernest Giel from the Aruba Tourism Authority coordinated a fabulous program for the agents so they can get to know the island in its best.

The travel agents were very satisfied with what Aruba has to offer to their clients and went back home with great memories themselves of this fascinated famtrip.

## Jazz Concert at Fort Zoutman this coming Sunday!



Internationally renowned Aruba jazz musician Carlos Bislip is ending his summer of Drum Set & Percussion Camp for youth with a concert this coming Sunday, August 4, in historical Fort Zoutman in Oranjestad. The concert begins at 7:00 PM and the entrance fee is 10 Aruban florins (\$5.57) U.S.

The concert will include an array of Aruba's top interpretive musical artists, not only percussion, showcasing the progress of the camp's students. It is also an homage to some of the island's greatest drummers: Chencho Kelly, Ebby Peterson, Elgin Kock, Frank Dijkhoff, Stanley La Cruz and Vio Wester.

Noted island performers participating in the event are vocalist Robert Maduro, accompanied by Eduardo Maya and Franklin Granadillo on horns and trumpet, Ivan Quandus, and Jamaal Baptiste on keyboards.

Tickets for this congenial evening of jazz under the stars are available at the Rufo Wever School of Music attached to the Cas di Cultura in Oranjestad; inquire in music room #4.

Rosalie Klein

### Early Bird Menu

5:30 pm - 7:00 pm



**Appetizers:** Stuffed Avocado, Escargots Bourguignon, (choose one) Fruits of the Seven Seas, Choices of Soups

**Entrees:** Breaded Grouper topped with coconut shrimps served with rice and vegetables

Land & Sea  
Chicken Breast, Steak & Shrimps with rice and vegetables

Breaded Chicken Breast  
served with mushroom sauce, topped with cheese served with vegetables and stuffed potato

Twin Tenderloin or Chicken Parmesan  
served on a bed of linguini pasta

Dessert, Coffee or Tea

**US\$27**

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## US to close embassies Sunday over security fears: State Dept

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The United States said it would close an unspecified number of embassies around the world on Sunday over security concerns.

State Department spokeswoman Marie Harf on Thursday called the step "precautionary" but declined to specify the threat or list which missions would be closed.

"The Department of State has instructed certain US embassies and consulates to remain closed or to suspend operations on Sunday, August 4," Harf told reporters.

The decision was taken "out of an abundance of caution and care for our employees and others who may be visiting our installations," she said.

Harf said that the embassies would be closed

specifically on Sunday, with an assessment afterwards on whether to reopen them.

"It is possible we may have additional days of closing as well," she said.

Harf declined to specify from which part of the world the threat was detected.

Government offices are nearly always closed in the United States on Sunday, which is the start of the work week in many Muslim-majority countries.

The United States has been especially cautious about security since an attack on its consulate in Benghazi, Libya on September 11 last year.

The attack killed four Americans, including ambassador Chris Stevens, and led critics in Congress to accuse the State Department of insufficient security.

## Snowden given Russia asylum, leaves airport

Continued from pg 1

A spokeswoman for Sheremetyevo confirmed he had left the airport after 2:00 pm (1000 GMT). A grainy still image published by Rossiya 24 television showed a young man with a rucksack -- apparently Snowden -- about to get into a car outside the airport.

Snowden, 30, is wanted on felony charges by the United States after leaking details of vast US surveillance programmes, but Russia has refused to extradite him.

In a statement released by the WikiLeaks anti-secrecy website, Snowden thanked Russia for giving him asylum and slammed the administration of US President Barack Obama for having "no respect" for international or domestic law.

"But in the end the law is winning," Snowden said.

--- 'A safe place' ---

Kucherenka, who had held several meetings with Snowden and helped him make his

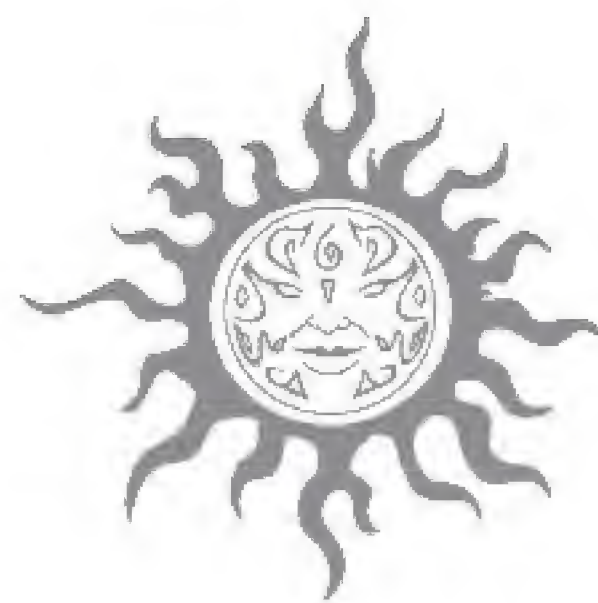
asylum application on July 16, added his new place of residence would be kept secret for security reasons.

Kucherna said that Snowden would eventually emerge into public view and give interviews to the press. But he said Snowden first required an "adaptation course" after so long in the transit zone.

He said Snowden would be helped in Russia by unspecified "American friends" who would assist with the fugitive's security.

Meanwhile, the founder of Russia's most popular social network VKontakte -- 28-year-old Pavel Durov -- offered a job to Snowden as a programmer.

Snowden has been staying in the transit zone of the Sheremetyevo airport north of Moscow since he flew in from Hong Kong on June 23. Until now, he had never formally crossed the Russian border.



## NEW SUMMER COLLECTION IN STORE

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## Hands off Jane Austen's ring, Britain tells US singer

LONDON (AFP) - The British government has blocked US singer Kelly Clarkson from taking a ring once owned by author Jane Austen out of the country, a minister said on Thursday.

Clarkson, bought the gold and turquoise ring for more than £150,000 (\$227,000, 172,000 euros) at an auction last year.

But junior culture minister Ed Vaizey has barred temporarily the export of the ring in a bid to keep it in Britain.

It is one of only three surviving pieces of jewellery known to have belonged to the 19th century author, whose novels including "Pride and Prejudice", "Emma" and "Sense and Sensibility" are among Britain's best-loved classics.

"Jane Austen's modest lifestyle and her early death mean that objects associated with her of any kind are extremely rare," Vaizey said. "So I hope that a UK buyer comes forward so this simple but elegant ring can be saved for the nation."

The export bar will last until at least September 30, and can be extended until December 30 if a buyer in Britain shows "a serious intention to raise funds" to match the price Clarkson paid. Known for hits including "A Moment Like This" and "Since U Been Gone", the 31-year-old Texan singer has sold more than 20 million albums.

She revealed in October that British officials were trying to prevent her from taking the ring home after she bought it at an auction three months earlier.

"We put in an export request but I can't take it out of the UK as they've named it a national treasure," she told the Daily Star newspaper.



## International News

### Portugal agrees to work with UK on Madeleine McCann case



LISBON (AFP) - Portuguese authorities on Thursday accepted a request from Britain to work with detectives who have reopened the investigation into the disappearance of British girl Madeleine McCann in 2007.

"The judicial authorities or the British police cannot act alone on Portuguese soil. They can only assist the Portuguese

authorities in carrying out their request," a Portuguese government spokesman told AFP.

British police said last month they were opening their own investigation into Madeleine's disappearance in 2007 while her parents dined with friends at a resort on the Algarve.

Her parents mounted a high-profile campaign to keep the case in the public eye after Portuguese police wrapped up their investigation in July 2008. British police say they have no reason to believe Madeleine, who disappeared when she was just three, is not alive.

A spokesman for London's Metropolitan Police, which is leading the new probe, said they were not prepared to provide "a running commentary" on the case.

### Spain seizes 500 kilos of cocaine from yacht

MADRID (AFP) - Spanish authorities have seized 500 kilos (1,100 pounds) of cocaine from a yacht off the Canary Islands, in an operation that smashed a ring that smuggled drugs from Latin America to the archipelago, the interior ministry said Thursday.

Five people were arrested -- two Spaniards, an Irish national, an American and an Australian woman -- in the probe, the ministry said in a statement.

"The ring shipped large amounts of drugs from South America to Cape Verde, where it was stored. Later, after taking all kinds of security measures, the drugs were sent in smaller amounts to the Canary Islands, its final destination," the statement said.

A Spanish customs ship intercepted the yacht on July 17 in international waters in the Atlantic Ocean near the Spanish archipelago and customs agents and police found 500 packages containing about one

kilo each of cocaine onboard.

Police also seized several weapons, including two sub-machine guns, as well as jewelry and gold worth around 135,000 euros (\$180,000), and 40,000 euros in cash in five searches carried out as part of their investigation.

The authorities also confiscated two high-end vehicles, two sailboats and a schooner as well as satellite telecommunications equipment that was used by the ring.

Police have not ruled out more arrests in the ongoing investigation.

Spain is a key entry point for drugs bound for Europe.

Spain seized 20.7 tonnes of cocaine last year, 24.9 percent more than in the previous year, and 325.5 tonnes of hashish, down 8.5 percent from 2011, according to the interior ministry. That represented 41.2 percent of the total amount of cocaine seized in Europe last year and 74 percent of the hashish.

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### Austrian convicted for 'liquid ecstasy' tragedy

VIENNA (AFP) - An Austrian man was sentenced on Thursday to two years in prison over the death of a woman in his car who mistook the drug "liquid ecstasy" for water.

The 27-year-old Natalie D. and a girlfriend were given a lift from a nightclub in Vienna by the 36-year-old defendant and another man in the early hours of April 1.

The man told the thirsty woman she could drink "something in the back", meaning some fruit juice, but instead

she took a gulp from a plastic bottle she thought contained water.

In fact it was gamma-hydroxybutyric acid (GHB), otherwise known as liquid ecstasy, an intoxicant popular in the club scene and also used as a "date rape" narcotic.

Natalie tried to vomit and then fell asleep in the car. When the others were unable to wake her they carried her to her friend's flat.

"After 10 minutes we couldn't feel a pulse any more. We

panicked and call the ambulance," the defendant said. She died in hospital five days later having never regained consciousness.

Presiding judge Hannelore Pilz called the woman's death a "tragic accident" and said the defendant "had left a highly dangerous liquid more or less lying around" in his car.

The defendant, convicted of causing death by dangerous negligence, said the death was a "disaster that I now have to answer for".

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## Health & Living

### Australian nursing home killer jailed for life

SYDNEY (AFP) - A man convicted of deliberately lighting a blaze that ripped through a Sydney nursing home, killing 11 elderly residents, was Thursday sentenced to life in jail with no chance of parole.

Roger Dean, a nurse at the facility, pleaded guilty to 11 counts of murder, telling police after the fire in 2011 that he had been "corrupted with evil thoughts".

He also admitted eight counts of causing grievous bodily harm to other mostly infirm residents of the home, some of whom suffered from dementia or were blind.

Judge Megan Latham said the 37-year-old's crimes were in the worst category, calling them "heinous", "atrocious" and "greatly reprehensible" with his victims vulnerable and elderly people who were under his care.

Three residents perished

during the inferno Dean started and eight others died later from their injuries.

The Supreme Court heard that he started the blaze at two separate points in the building as part of a "considered plan" to distract police officers and hospital management from his theft of more than 200 prescription pills.

At the time Dean was described by locals as a friendly but quiet man who kept to himself, and he was initially hailed a hero after talking to media outside the home as firefighters battled to contain the flames.

He told reporters then that he "just quickly did what I could to get everyone out".

Dean was addicted to prescription painkillers and suffered from a personality disorder, but the court was told there was no evidence he was suffering from a significant mental illness at the time.

### Stomach bug triggers mass vomiting on Qantas flight

SYDNEY (AFP) - Dozens of people were rushed off a Qantas flight for medical treatment in Sydney on Thursday after a stomach bug struck mid-journey, triggering a mass vomit-

ing episode.

Media reports said between 20 and 30 passengers were vomiting as they disembarked in Sydney and were met by a fleet of ambulances.



MONTEVIDEO (AFP) - Uruguay moved closer to becoming the world's first nation to produce and distribute marijuana, after its lower house approved a bill putting control of the drug in government hands. If the measure wins Senate approval, it would mark the first time a national government takes charge of production and distribution of legal marijuana. Marijuana use has doubled in the last ten years in the small, mostly rural South American country of 3.4 million. The government of leftist President Jose Mujica, who is a doctor by training, has given its blessing to the measure.

As a precaution, Qantas said all other passengers on the flight were advised to monitor their health closely over the next 24-48 hours.

Health authorities said they had been advised that "26 passengers returning on a Qantas flight from Santiago, Chile, developed vomiting and diarrhoea on the plane, consistent with norovirus infection, a common cause of outbreaks of gastroenteritis in Australia and elsewhere".

### Nepal bans chicken sales after bird flu outbreak

KATHMANDU (AFP) - Nepal on Thursday banned the sale of chicken after health workers found cases of bird flu at several poultry farms on the outskirts of the capital Kathmandu, officials said.

Officials at Kathmandu District Animal Health Office said the government had imposed a week-long ban on the supply and sale of poultry products to prevent the H5N1 virus from spreading to humans.

Since the latest outbreak of bird flu two weeks ago, health workers have culled 220,000 chickens and destroyed more than 400,000 eggs at 30 affected farms, said Bijay Kant Jha, the head of the government-run Directorate of Animal Health.

H5N1, a common strain of bird flu, killed 377 people globally from 2003 until July 5 this year, according to the World Health Organisation.

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## Sci-Tech

### Top French court lifts ban on growing Monsanto GM corn

PARIS (AFP) - France's top administrative court on Thursday threw out a government ban on US agro-chemicals giant Monsanto from growing a type of genetically modified corn.

A moratorium on MON810 corn -- one of just two types of genetically altered food crops whose cultivation is approved by the European Union -- has been in place in France since March 2012.

The Council of State court noted in a statement that the moratorium had little legal basis.

It pointed out that EU regulations say such a ban "can only be taken by a member state in case of an emergency or if a situation poses a major risk" to the health of people or animals, or to the environment.

But France's Agriculture Minister Stephane Le Foll countered that the government "is not in favour of GM, especially MON810 which is a corn that is resistant to herbicides."

He hinted earlier that the government would take other legal actions if the ban were lifted, and later announced that authorities would take a fresh decision on whether or not to get rid of MON810 before farmers next sow seeds from April 2014.

Brussels cleared MON810 in 1998 for 10 years and Monsanto submitted a request in 2007 for it to be extended but the process has been effectively frozen since then.

In the absence of a formal decision on the renewal request, MON810 is still grown on a small scale, notably in Spain and Portugal whose governments have been more welcoming than other member states.



### Facebook lets users showcase posts on other websites

SAN FRANCISCO (AFP) - Facebook on Wednesday began letting people share social network posts at blogs or other spots on the Internet.

An Embedded Posts feature being tested out at CNN, Huffington Post, Bleacher Report, PEOPLE and Mashable websites lets Facebook members broadcast posts in real-time to broader online audiences.

"When embedded, posts can include pictures, videos, hashtags and other content," they continued. "People can also like and share the post directly from the embed." Facebook software engineers Dave Capra and Ray He said in a blog post.

Facebook posts that people allow to be shared publicly can be fired off to blogs or selected outside websites, with the list of venues to grow quickly, according to the engineers.

Examples given by Facebook included an official British Monarchy Page publishing a picture of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge with their newborn son.

The Twitter-style feature is being added as California-based Facebook works to expand its presence on the Internet and its appeal to members increasingly accessing the Internet on the go with smartphones or tablets.



SYDNEY (AFP) - A major research aquarium able to simulate ocean warming and carry out key studies on the deadly crown-of-thorns starfish devastating the Great Barrier Reef opened in Australia on Thursday. The Aus\$35 million (US\$31.4 million) National Sea Simulator, or SeaSim, was unveiled in the northern city of Townsville by Industry Minister Kim Carr, who said it was a vital weapon in protecting the reef and Australia's vast territorial waters. According to AIMS principal research scientist Mike Hall researchers would be able to tweak a sophisticated array of parameters in the SeaSim tanks, including water temperature and acidity, salinity, lighting, nutrient levels, and water quality to test a range of hypotheses. Tackling the predatory crown-of-thorns starfish responsible for widespread damage to the Barrier Reef would be a key priority for the simulator, according to AIMS chief John Gunn.

## COMICS

## PICKLES



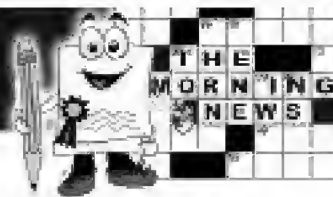
## MOMMA



## CALVIN and HOBBS



## CROSSWORD



## CROSSWORD

## ACROSS

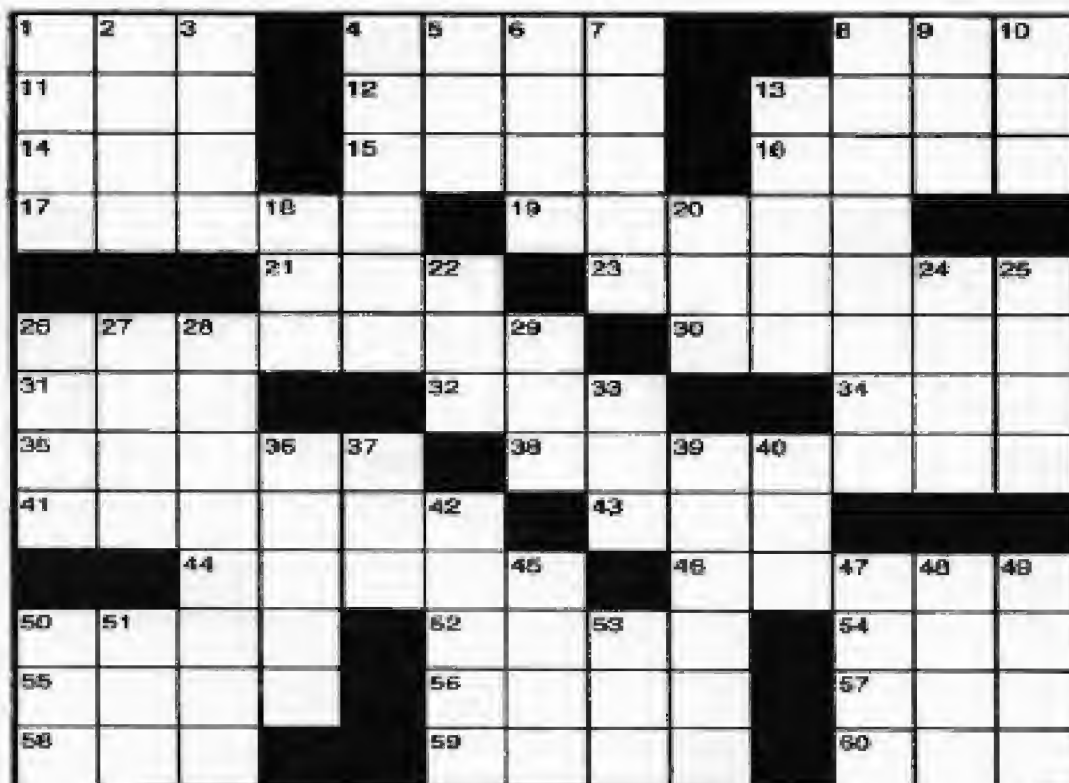
1. Hirt and Capone
4. Rebuff
8. "Go, team!"
11. Sleep stage (abbr.)
12. Hawaiian island
13. Hoax
14. \_\_\_ de cologne
15. "\_\_\_ keep"
16. Readies a printing press
17. Following
19. Dummies
21. Enjoy the slopes
23. Not as messy
26. "Orange \_\_\_ Time"
30. Thickheaded
31. Remove a stitch
32. New (prefix)
34. Sunbather's goal
35. "Goodnight \_\_\_"
38. Excluded (2 wds.)
41. Shade of blue
43. Early brand of car
44. Secret Service member
46. Don't disturb (2 wds.)
50. Closet insect
52. Surrealism's Salvador
54. Furnace fuel
55. Scheme
56. Shamrock land

## DOWN

57. Yr. divisions
58. Germany (abbr.)
59. Confuse
60. Previously named
1. Sector
2. Table insert
3. Particle of soot
4. Smug smiles
5. Nero's language (abbr.)
6. New Year's song beginning
7. Airline employee
8. Comes across unexpectedly (2 wds.)
9. Inquire
10. "\_\_\_ a Rebel"
13. \_\_\_ Janeiro (2 wds.)
18. Tricky curve
20. Took action
22. Charged particle
24. Son of Isaac
25. Tenant's obligation
26. Edge
27. Euro's predecessor in Italy
28. Phone's "zero" button
29. Crooner Tormé
33. Above, anthem-style
36. Starry time
37. WSW's opp.

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Telephone  
Numbers

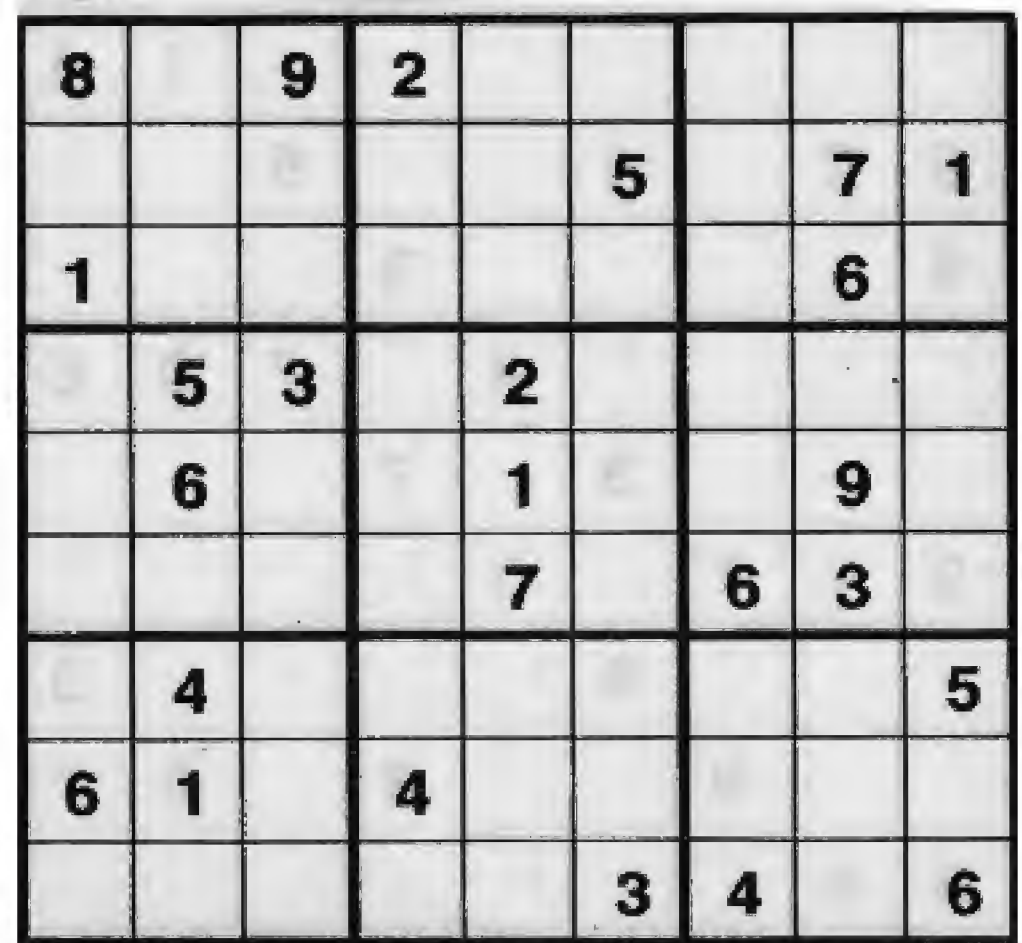
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Horacio Oduber Hospital  
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# Sudoku



SOLUTION

6	9	5	2	9	5	1	9	2
2	9	9	7	1	4	6	5	6
1	5	2	5	9	6	2	7	9
2	9	5	1	2	9	5	6	7
9	6	7	2	6	5	9	1	3
5	2	1	6	7	9	2	6	9
9	1	2	6	6	7	8	2	9
6	5	8	8	2	2	7	9	1
7	2	8	9	5	1	6	2	6

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9  
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.  
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9



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## FINANCE

### Failing hoteliers charged with \$100 mn Ponzi scheme

NEW YORK CITY, August 1, 2013 (AFP) - The FBI on Thursday arrested two New Yorkers on charges of running a \$100 million Ponzi scheme they used to fund luxury lifestyles and disguise losses on a landmark beach hotel.

Brian Callahan, 43, an investment fund manager, and his brother-in-law Adam Manson, 41, were due to be arraigned before a judge in Central Islip, New York, later in the day on charges including wire and securities fraud, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) said in a statement.

According to the 34-count indictment, Callahan raised a total of \$118 million from investors in four different funds he ran between December 2006 and February 2012.

Approximately \$96 million of this total was allegedly used to operate a large-scale Ponzi scheme -- a now well-known type of financial fraud in which money from new investors is used to keep paying limited returns to previous investors, thus keeping the scheme afloat while the bulk of the capital is consumed by the fraudster.

Prosecutors believe Callahan diverted millions of dollars

towards the Panoramic View, an unprofitable beachfront resort that he co-owned with Manson.

The Panoramic View is located in Montauk, the picturesque eastern tip of Long Island that has long been a favorite of fishermen and has recently become a fashionable getaway spot for hipster New Yorkers.

As well as pouring money into the failing 117-unit resort, Callahan splashed out on expensive cars and luxury homes, including one in the millionaires playground of the Hamptons.

Manson meanwhile presented money he received from his brother-in-law as having come from his father, using the capital to fraudulently raise \$45 million in loans for the struggling Panoramic View.

Callahan's investors were provided with fake accounts that indicated their investments, which they believed

had been placed in mutual funds and other securities, were performing well.

One of the victims of the scam, a resident of Maryland, had invested \$11 million after being assured all his funds would be placed in low-risk securities.

Ponzi schemes have been operated in numerous countries and have been around for the better part of two centuries. Some of the first examples appear in the works of English writer Charles Dickens.

They take their name from swindler Charles Ponzi, an Italian-American who was first imprisoned for using the technique in 1920.

New York financier Bernard Madoff was convicted in 2009 of operating the world's biggest Ponzi scheme, having raised \$65 billion dollars from investors including Hollywood stars in a fraud which resulted in him being given a 150-year prison sentence.



**JAKARTA** : Indonesian women sort through cheap clothes looking for a bargain at a traditional market in Jakarta. Indonesia's inflation hit its highest level in July since early 2009 after a fuel price hike and an increase in the cost of food during Ramadan, official data showed on yesterday.



### Daily Exchange Rates

Current as of: 08/01/2013	Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles	ANG	98.00	100.00	100.20
Canada	CAD	1.77	1.79	1.75
Britain	GBP	2.80	2.85	2.76
Switzerland	CHF	191.71	192.43	192.76
Netherlands	EUR	230.59	232.69	238.11
Sweden	SEK	25.91	26.63	27.66
Denmark	DKK	30.23	30.95	32.18
Norway	NOK	30.67	31.39	30.64
Japan	JPY	214.88	216.84	182.19

(per 10,000)  
All rates for amounts up to AWG 100,00 per item.

### Mexican government to present energy reform next week

MEXICO CITY (AFP) - Mexico's president said Thursday his government will present a reform plan for energy giant Pemex next week, setting the stage for a major debate over the state monopoly's future.

Overhauling Petroleos de Mexico, known by its acronym Pemex, is one of the most politically sensitive reforms being pushed by President Enrique Pena Nieto since he took office eight months ago.

"The government will present in the coming days, I expect next week, my initiative on this issue," Pena Nieto told Radio Formula from a hospital room, a day after he underwent a successful surgery to remove a benign thyroid nodule.

Critics say Pena Nieto aims to privatize Pemex, which was founded when the oil industry was nationalized 75 years ago, but the Mexican leader insists it will remain a state-run company.

Pena Nieto's Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI), which ruled Mexico for most of the 20th century and returned to the presidency in De-

cember, has struck a landmark pact with the leftist and conservative opposition to enact structural reforms.

The conservative National Action Party (PAN) proposed its own energy reform on Wednesday, aiming to open the door to more private investment in the oil sector in Latin America's second biggest economy.

The so-called Pact for Mexico has led to major reforms in education and telecommunications. Pena Nieto said he intends to push a tax reform this year too.

The 47-year-old Mexican leader said he was still working despite undergoing surgery on Wednesday, using a "red telephone" and other means to do his job.

Pena Nieto said doctors expect to release him on Friday and that he would then rest at his presidential residence over the weekend before resuming his public activities on Monday. The operation has not affected his vocal cords and the nodule was confirmed as being benign.

#### YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

A	R	M		H	A	W	E	D		P	T	A
B	O	O		E	V	O	K	E		L	O	P
I	O	N		L	A	N	E	S		A	T	E
E	M	A	I	L	S				I	N	N	E
			S	O	T		E	R	R			
V	E	G	A	S		D	R	E	A	M	U	P
I	T	E			K	O	S			T	S	E
A	C	R	O	B	A	T			F	A	V	O
			L	A	Y				G	O	T	
K	N	E	E	L		A	L	A	R	M	S	
N	I	X		L	A	S	I	K		A	I	L
I	N	A		O	M	I	T	S		I	R	E
T	O	M		T	I	P	S	Y		N	E	D

## US kidnap victims described their torment in diaries

CHICAGO (AFP) - Diaries kept by three young women held captive for a decade in an Ohio home helped US prosecutors describe their suffering in a memo released ahead of their tormentor's sentencing hearing Thursday.

The entries spoke of rape, vicious beatings, of being chained to a wall and locked in a dark room, of "being treated like an animal," of "anticipating the next session of abuse," and of "his threats to kill," prosecutors said.

Prosecutors said they relied on diaries kept by the women during their lengthy captivity for many of the 977 criminal charges lodged against Castro.

The women also wrote of "dreams of some day escaping and being reunited with family," of "missing the lives they once enjoyed" and of their overwhelming desire for freedom.

Their tormentor, Ariel Castro, last week agreed to plead guilty and spend the rest of his life in prison with no chance of parole in exchange for prosecutors taking the death penalty off the table.

The former school bus driver, 53, has been formally sentenced on Thursday.

Castro rambling a quasi-apology to his three victims, one of whom sat stonily in the courtroom, Castro claimed he had acted on impulse as a result of sexual addiction. "I would like to apologize," the former school bus driver said as the hearing opened. "I am not a monster. I am just sick. I have an addiction, just like an alcoholic has an addiction."

"Although he admits his disgusting and inhuman conduct, the defendant remains remorseless for his actions," Cuyahoga county prosecutor



Timothy McGinty wrote in the sentencing memo released late Wednesday.

With tears pouring down her face, Michelle Knight vowed that she will recover

locked rooms in Castro's house in a working class neighborhood of Cleveland.

They were rarely given access to the bathroom and instead had to relieve themselves

Castro admitted that he "did not have an exit strategy" and claimed he "gave them all a chance to escape" by leaving the door to Berry's room unlocked, prosecutors said.

DNA tests showed that Castro fathered Berry's child. He has asked Judge Michael Russo to allow him to see her, a request the judge deemed "inappropriate."

Berry initially addressed her entries to her mother, according to a report by a psychiatrist who evaluated the women. After learning of her mother's death, she wrote to soothe her mother's spirit in heaven.

Police do not understand why none of the people who visited the unassum



from 11 years of captivity and torment.

Michelle Knight, 32 was the first to be snatched off the street in 2002 when she was 20. Next came Amanda Berry, kidnapped the night before her 17th birthday in 2003. Then came Gina DeJesus who was just 14 and a friend of Castro's daughter when she was abducted in 2004.

The stunning case came to light after Berry managed to escape with her six-year-old daughter by calling out to a neighbor for help through a locked front door on May 6.

For years, the women were kept chained by their ankles in



Michelle Knight in court

in plastic buckets that were "emptied infrequently," prosecutors said.

Knight was impregnated four times during her 11 years of captivity. Castro terminated at least one of the pregnancies by starving her for days and then kicking and jumping on her stomach.

Berry was allowed to carry a pregnancy to term, giving birth in a plastic kiddie pool on Christmas Day, 2006.

The chains eventually came off once Castro had terrified his victims into "subservience," allowing the women to occasionally share "faith and friendship," the court documents said. But the locks remained and Castro would beat them whenever they tried to escape.

Among his many threats and manipulations were dire stories of other victims who never made it home and his desire to hunt for "replacements."

ing house at 2207 Seymour -- including Castro's family and girlfriend -- realized what was going on there.

Castro's adult children and two brothers -- who had to go into hiding after being briefly detained as suspects -- have publicly condemned and disowned him.

His victims have begged the media and public to respect their privacy and give them time to heal. In a statement last week they said they were "relieved" by the plea deal and "satisfied by this resolution to the case."

The judge has imposed consecutive sentences on 937 charges against him, including life in prison.

"You took 11 years of my life away. I went through 11 years of hell, and now your hell is just beginning. You will face hell for eternity. You will die a little every day," Michelle Knight said.

## Venezuela launches school of Chavezian thought



CARACAS (AFP) - Venezuela Wednesday unveiled its latest tribute to revered late president Hugo Chavez: its very own institute of Chavezian thought.

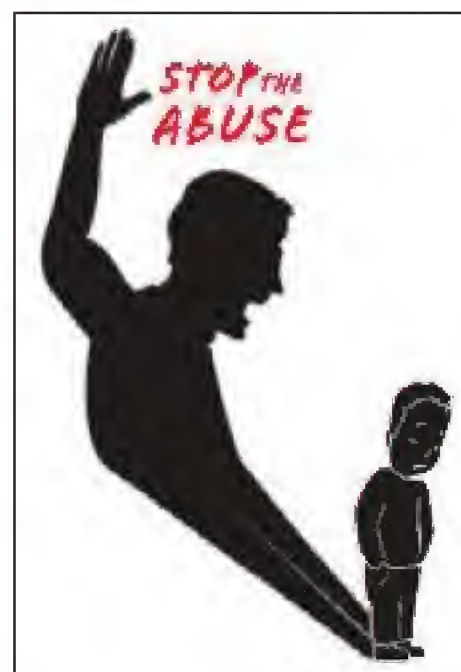
"Creation is hereby authorized of a State Foundation that will be called the 'Institute of Higher Learning of Supreme Comandante Hugo Chavez Frias's Thought'," read a decree from President Nicolas Maduro in the official gazette.

The socialist anti-US firebrand, the most prominent face of Latin America's left, died five months ago.

The institute "will approve and monitor coursework on the ideas of the top leader of the Bolivarian Revolution for university-level and postgraduate degree programs" as well as set out rules for the use of the late president's name in public spaces.

Maduro announced the creation of the new institute in Sabaneta, Chavez' hometown, on Sunday as part of a week-long national celebration of what would have been the late leader's birthday.

Chavez's legacy however has divided the country, with about half the population blaming him or Maduro for the OPEC-member country's miserable economy and sky-high crime rate.



## 5 Burgers Aruba: Now your best breakfast bargain!



**Delicious Breakfast**

--A favorite stop for a great burger for lunch or dinner has just expanded their hours and menu to offer some of the best breakfast bargains to be found in Palm Beach. Owners Aaron and Rosie Walisever are living their dream: a home on paradise while welcoming all and

sundry to their proud undertaking. 5 Burgers Aruba. The couple's fanatical dedication to giving their customers what they really want has resulted in a unique menu from an internationally known franchise with a "5", which now includes breakfast.

"You never get a second chance to make a first impression," believes Aaron. Upon entering 5 Burgers Aruba in The Village Mall in Palm Beach, one is struck by utterly spotless surroundings and a smiling, friendly, attentive service crew. Of course, the main item on the menu is burgers-the way they were meant to be, thick and juicy, made fresh daily and 100% pure beef, the kind that made the hamburger a traditional American treat.

However, beginning at 8 a.m., patrons can now order 2

eggs any style, (omelets with 3 fillings are \$7.99) toast and coffee with unlimited refills for the special introductory price of only \$4.99, (\$5.48 with bacon) or All-you-can-eat pancakes, for \$6.99, with free refills on fresh coffee. A new plate called the "Home Run" comes with 2 eggs, bacon or sausage, 2 pancakes, toast, home fries, with complimentary, unlimited coffee for only \$9.99! Breakfast is served until 11 a.m. Famous for their fries made from fresh potatoes, Aaron has been working for months on devising the most irresistible home fries recipe, chunky and tender with skins still on; after much testing and tasting, he got the thumbs up from his harshest critic, Rosie, so this is another treat you have to try.

A glance at their burger menu will certainly tempt you to return for lunch or dinner, to sample their famous specialty items such as the Gouda, Farmer's or Man Burger (al-



most 12 ounces of choice beef), and a Western Burger with Aarons' secret-recipe crispy onion rings. All of these can be personalized with an incredible array of toppings, (mushrooms, jala-peño peppers, bacon, cheese, lettuce, tomato...whatever, the list goes on) at absolutely no extra cost.

5 Burger portions are ENORMOUS! Aaron suggests that even their small serving of fries is enough to be shared by two. He was very amused to

watch a famous French chef demonstrating the best way to make fried potatoes on a gourmet cooking show and could only comment "He stole my recipe!"

Try them the English way-with vinegar, and you'll wonder how you ever ate fries without it. This same 5-star chef also swears by Gouda as the best topping for the ideal gourmet cheeseburger.

**5 Burgers is now open from 8am to 10pm-ish Sunday - Thursday. For those late night diners, 5 Burgers is open until 3AM-ish on Friday & Saturdays! Delivery is available to most Hotels and most beaches!** Enjoy a great lunch without ever leaving the beach by calling 586-3904. However, we suggest you stop by and enjoy their authentic, heartfelt hospitality; it is not unusual for either owner to sit and chat, sharing their knowledge of the island while making sure patrons are happy with their meal.

## Gold Coast Aruba: This is the time to invest

-- Management of Gold Coast Aruba, the island's newest and most innovative gated community, reports that sales have been very good and encouraging as the global economy recovers and people looking to purchase vacation homes have found that Gold Coast is an outstanding investment value. Director of Sales, Fito Croes has noticed a surprising percentage of owners in reality do not spend a great amount of time personally to use the villas or town homes they purchase, but are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their 'home away from home' in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," he remarked, "but I am gratified by how many are buying because they felt secure with real estate investment on Aruba. They really study the history and economy of the island and are impressed with the political stability and continually increasing value of prime locations. Gold Coast is in the heart of Malmok, considered Aruba's most exclusive community where the value of properties has only increased over time. It is only minutes to the best beaches and all the action, and yet offers a quiet and secluded getaway; we are very pleased by



the response to our concept."

Fito, with his sister Mayrin and brother Rudy operate Cas Bon, which has been constructing homes and building developments for all budgets for nearly twenty years. "Gold Coast Aruba is the jewel in our crown," observes Fito. "We were very excited about this project and the scope of actual and planned facilities and amenities. We have spoken to countless island visitors to find out what they would really want in a permanent residence on Aruba, and took from there."

Input from frequent vacationers who have dreamed of their own home in Aruba contributed to the realization of Gold Coast Aruba which when complete will be a community

of 260 town homes, villas and condominiums with a stunning clubhouse complemented by two additional community pool areas. The Clubhouse is about to start construction and will offer to the community homeowners and visitors 2 tennis courts, full service spa and fitness center as well as a stunning pool area and is expected to be complete by early 2013. It will also house a restaurant and mini-market.

Owners who purchased upon the groundbreaking only a few short years ago, are already enjoying a nearly 50% appreciation on their investment, particularly those taking advantage of the on site management's rental services program. There is always a great demand for Aruba and facili-

ties such as those at Gold Coast, make it easy for some owners to see a valuable return on their investment.

The design of the residences and public areas is open, airy and spacious, taking full advantage of the island environment, with quality construction and finishing available. Partnering with two of Aruba's top providers of kitchens and bathrooms enables developers to offer custom options allowing buyers to individualize their homes. An elegant and chic furniture package is available or island designers will assist owners in finishing the décor to their specific tastes.

There are many aspects to purchasing property; not the

least is the future value of the investment. To further enhance this, Gold Coast management have inaugurated a number of in-house services and have recently become affiliated Interval International, the world's largest network of vacation ownership properties which provides an unlimited international pool of investors to tap for ownership and rental prospects. Property exchange for a vacation in another destination is also available through the Interval International affiliation. Gold Coast's own rental services have also proven highly successful in assisting owners in renting their villas; 24-hour security and maintenance services also tip the scales when it is time to make a decision. Aside from all this, housekeeping, child care, catering services, car rental through its partnership with AVIS car rental are also available as well as pre-shopping services so cupboards and refrigerators are stocked upon arrival, which can also be arranged through their property management department. Personnel are also available to assist in arranging restaurant reservations and island activities.

Visit their website: [www.goldcoastaruba.com](http://www.goldcoastaruba.com) for more details and availability or call 586-2200 to arrange a personal tour.

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## NBA: Wall inks contract extension with Wizards

WASHINGTON (AFP) - John Wall, the top pick in the 2010 NBA Draft, signed a contract extension with the Washington Wizards on Wednesday that will keep him with the club until 2019.

The deal, reportedly for five years and worth \$80 million, would start in the 2014-2015 campaign and keep him from testing the free agent market next year.

The Wizards need all the help they can get after going 29-53 last season. They have not reached the playoffs since 2008 and have won only one playoff series since 1982, that coming in 2005 over Chicago.

"I am both proud and humbled by the belief that the Wizards organization, the fans and my teammates have shown in me since I arrived here three years ago," said Wall. "I can promise all of them that I will repay that belief by representing the city of Washington and doing everything I can to get this team back where it belongs."

Wall averaged a career-high 18.5 points and a team-best 7.6 assists while shooting 44.1 percent from the field in 49 games last season. He missed the first 33 games of the season due to a left patella injury.

Wall has three-season NBA averages of 16.9 points, 8.0 assists, 4.4 rebound and 1.5 steals in 184 games.



PRAGUE (AFP) - Czech discus thrower Vera Cechlova finally received her Olympic bronze medal Thursday, nine years after the Athens Games. Cechlova officially received her medal in Prague from the IOC following the disqualification of Belarusian Irina Yatchenko for doping. Cechlova finished fourth at the Athens Games after a throw of 66.08m, 9cm behind Yatchenko as Russia's Natalya Sadova (67.02m) took gold and Greece's Anastasia Kelesidou (66.68m) claimed the silver. However, doping tests carried out last year revealed that Yatchenko had used anabolic steroids, and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) stripped her of her medal last December before opting in May to hand the bronze to Cechlova. Now 34, Cechlova also won bronze at the 2005 World Championships.



HAVANA (AFP) - A 35-year-old American on Thursday left Havana on a stand-up paddleboard in a bid to reach Florida -- a journey he said he hoped would promote "peace and love" between Cuba and the United States. "This trip is to promote peace and love and friendship between the people of Cuba and the United States, as well as a healthy lifestyle," Benjamin Friberg said before leaving Havana's Marina Hemingway. Friberg, who hails from the US state of Tennessee, said he hoped to complete the 170-kilometer (105-mile) journey from the Cuban capital to Key West in about 20 hours. "I'm not sure. It depends on the challenges I will face -- waves, winds, current, all the variables," he said, calling his attempt to cross the perilous, shark-infested Straits of Florida the first by paddleboard. In the past two years, three swimmers have tried -- and failed -- to make the hazardous crossing.

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## SPORTS

### Football: Bayern bounce back to floor City



BERLIN (AFP) - Pep Guardiola's Bayern Munich came from behind to beat Premier League side Manchester City 2-1 in the final of the European champion's pre-season tournament on Thursday.

Both teams have new managers at their respective helms as ex-Barcelona boss Guardiola experiments with his starting line-up, including Germany star Bastian Schweinsteiger, who celebrated his 29th birthday.

Likewise, new City boss Manuel Pellegrini is still looking for his best line-up after succeeding Roberto Mancini.

Eight days before Munich kick-off the new Bundesliga season at home to Moenchengladbach, Croatia striker Mario Mandzukic headed home Bayern's 73rd-minute winner.

City's Spanish striker Alvaro Negrado had given the guests the lead with an hour gone when he slotted his shot into the bottom left corner after France's Sami Nasri unlocked the Bay-

ern defence.

Champions League winners Bayern got back on level terms just five minutes later when City's Pablo Zabaleta gave away a handball penalty after a tussle with Mandzukic and Mueller slotted home the resulting spot-kick.

Mandzukic, who scored Bayern's first goal in the 2-1 Wembley victory over Borussia Dortmund to give them their fifth European crown, then got on the end of Mueller's cross to drill home the winner as Guardiola's side bounced back from Saturday's 4-2 defeat to Dortmund in the German Super Cup. Bayern's Germany goalkeeper Manuel Neuer came to the hosts rescue a minute from the final whistle when he denied City striker Edin Dzeko with a superb save.

On Wednesday, Bayern had qualified for the final with a 2-0 win over Brazil's Sao Paulo, while City had one through after a 5-3 win over AC Milan in an eight-goal thriller.

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## Swimming: 'Wonder Woman' Franklin makes it four golds

BARCELONA (AFP) - Missy Franklin has been dubbed America's swimming 'Wonder Woman' after claiming her fourth gold at the world championships by anchoring the USA team to victory in Thursday's 4x200m freestyle relay.

Franklin, 18, powered down the pool in the final leg to clock 7min 45.14sec for the USA, the Olympic champions, with Australia finishing second at 1.94 back and France taking bronze at 3.29 adrift.

It was an exact repeat of the medallists in the London 2012 Olympic final.

Australia's Cate Campbell, one of Franklin's main rivals



in Friday night's 100m freestyle final, has said the US star is swimming like an All-American superhero.

With 16-year-old Katie Ledecky, who smashed nearly six seconds off the world 1500m freestyle record on Tuesday, swimming the first leg, a USA victory had looked like a foregone conclusion, something Franklin rejected.

"We don't even think about that stuff," insisted the teenager.

After gold in Sunday's 4x100m freestyle relay with the USA team and her individual victories in Tuesday's

100m backstroke and Wednesday's 200m freestyle final, Franklin has claimed four of seven possible golds in Barcelona.

Despite her haul, Franklin has no time to celebrate as she races again today morning's 200m backstroke heats, then the evening's hotly-anticipated women's 100m freestyle final.

Franklin, a backstroke specialist, will be up against 50 and 100m freestyle Olympic champion Ranomi Kromowidjojo and world leader Campbell, plus world 50 and 100m freestyle record-holder Britta Steffen of Germany.



**LIVERPOOL (AFP)** - Liverpool have submitted a £21.8million (24.9 million euros) bid for Atletico Madrid striker Diego Costa, the Liverpool Echo claimed Thursday. The 24-year-old Brazilian international would be the third most expensive signing in the club's history behind Andy Carroll and Luis Suarez. Costa could even be a replacement for the controversial Suarez who has been linked all summer with a move away from Anfield in his desperate pursuit of Champions League football. Costa scored 20 goals in 44 appearances for Atletico in all competitions last season.

## Tennis: Del Potro advances, angry Puchkova defaults

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Top seed Juan Martin Del Potro advanced with ease Thursday at the ATP and WTA Washington Open while Olga Puchkova hit a ball into a line judge and defaulted.

Rain on Wednesday postponed the opening matches for Del Potro and Japanese second seed Kei Nishikori, who had first-round byes, and halted two other men's matches at the \$1.76 million hardcourt event.

So facing two matches on Thursday, Del Potro made the most of his time on the court, nipping American Ryan Harrison 6-1, 7-5 in 70 minutes in his first start since losing to top-ranked Novak Djokovic in an epic five-setter, the longest semi-final in Wimbledon history.

Del Potro, who showed no signs of a knee injury that nagged him at Wimbledon, booked a third-round date against Australian 14th seed Bernard Tomic.

Del Potro broke Harrison twice to open the match, winning 16 of the first 22 points on his way to a 4-0 lead and broke again to claim the first set in 22 minutes.

Del Potro, a two-time Washington winner and the 2009 US Open champion, did not break again until the final game.

Nishikori, ranked a career-best 11th in the world, defeated American Jack Sock 7-5, 6-2 in one hour and 44 minutes to book a third-round match later with Cypriot Marcos Baghdatis.

Nishikori could not recall the last time he played twice in one day.

On the women's side, the only match halted Wednesday was Puchkova's.

She trailed Argentina's Paula Ormaechea 3-6, 6-3, 2-1 when play resumed Thursday but surrendered a break and trailed 4-1 in the final set.

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### MLB Standings

American League					National League				
East	W	L	Pct	GB	East	W	L	Pct	GB
BOSTON	65	44	.596	—	ATLANTA	63	46	.583	—
TAMPA	64	44	.593	0.5	WASHINGTON	52	56	.481	11.0
BALTIMORE	59	49	.546	5.5	PHILADELPHIA	50	57	.467	12.5
YANKEES	56	51	.523	8.0	NY METS	48	58	.453	14.0
TORONTO	50	57	.467	14.0	MIAMI	42	65	.393	20.5
Central	W	L	Pct	GB	Central	W	L	Pct	GB
DETROIT	61	45	.575	—	PITTSBURGH	65	42	.607	—
CLEVELAND	60	48	.556	2.0	ST. LOUIS	62	44	.585	2.5
KANSAS	54	51	.514	6.5	CINCINNATI	60	49	.550	6.0
MINNESOTA	45	60	.429	15.5	CHICAGO	49	58	.458	16.0
CHICAGO	40	66	.377	21.0	MILWAUKEE	46	62	.426	19.5
West	W	L	Pct	GB	West	W	L	Pct	GB
OAKLAND	63	45	.583	—	DODGERS	57	49	.538	—
TEXAS	59	49	.546	4.0	ARIZONA	55	52	.514	2.5
SEATTLE	50	57	.467	12.5	COLORADO	51	58	.468	7.5
LA ANGELES	48	58	.453	14.0	SAN DIEGO	50	59	.459	8.5
HOUSTON	36	70	.340	26.0	SAN FRANCISCO	47	59	.443	10.0

x-Clinched Playoff Spot; y-Division Champ

## Swimming: Lochte wins worlds gold



BARCELONA (AFP) - World record-holder Ryan Lochte of the USA won the men's 200m individual medley final -- despite his goggles steaming up -- at swimming's world championships on Thursday.

Lochte, the Olympic silver medallist, clocked 1min 54.98secs to win gold with 18-year-old Kosuke Hagino of Japan at 1.31 back and Brazil's Thiago Pereira, who had led after the first two legs, finished 1.32 adrift in bronze.

Hagino won his second silver at these Barcelona championships after finishing second to China's long-distance expert Sun Yang in Sunday's 400m freestyle final.

Lochte, who collected his 13th worlds gold dating back to Montreal in 2005, suffered from misty goggles in the final length, but still managed to touch the wall first.

"My goggles fogged up in the last fifty so I couldn't really see the rest of the field, I was just hoping I was in first and could get to the wall," said the 28-year-old, who also won a worlds silver here with the USA in Sunday's 4x100m

relay.

Lochte took an extended break from swimming after winning five medals, including two golds, at the London 2012 Olympics and admitted he was pleased with gold, given his lack of training this year.

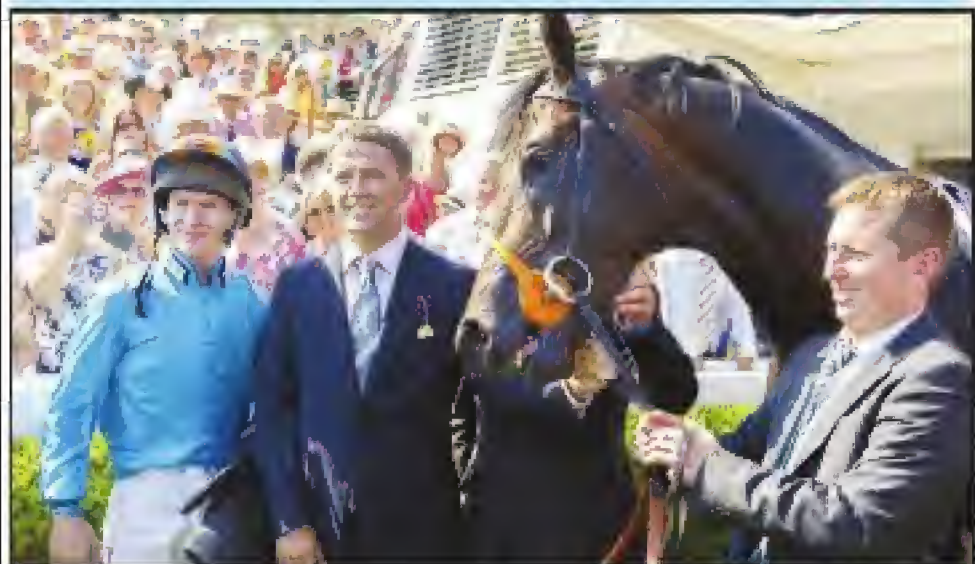
"It feels good considering my training hasn't really been there this year," he said before swimming again on Thursday to qualify second fastest from the semi-finals for Friday's 200m backstroke final.

"The first two days here I wasn't myself, I was too worried about the outcome of each race."

This was Lochte's second individual medal after finishing fourth in Tuesday's 200m freestyle final, failing to defend the title he won at the 2011 championships in Shanghai.

Bronze medallist Pereira, who won a silver in the 400m IM London Olympic final behind Lochte, said he was disappointed to miss silver by a one-hundredths of a second, but his priority is to win gold on home soil at the 2016 Rio de Janeiro Games.

## Racing: Goodwood Cup



CHICHESTER (AFP) - Former England international Michael Owen hit the back of the net at Glorious Goodwood on Thursday when his Brown Panther took the Group Two Goodwood Cup. Owen, who also bred the 13-2 winner, was on hand to watch as Brown Panther powered clear of his rivals to score by almost four lengths. Behind the Tom Dascombe-trained victor came Akzeemah with Germany's Altano, stablemate to last Saturday's King George VI and Queen Elizabeth II Stakes hero Novellist, in third. Owen, who retired from football at the end of last season, was thrilled with this success - one of his biggest wins as an owner/breeder.



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